up of this centre is to be taken by the Government of Uttaranchal. Three letters were issued to the Government of Uttaranchal on 23.01.2001, 20.3.2001 and 23.7.2001 with the request to furnish the necessary project report on the Growth Centre. The detailed project report is still awaited from the Government of Uttaranchal.

Demand and supply of tea

955. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minis-ter of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the production and export of tea during 1999-2000 in comparison to the previous year and trend of exports in 2000-2001;

(b) the consumption of tea with in the country;

(c) the gap between demand and production of tea in the country;

(d) whether the export of tea has been declining year after year; and

(e) the details of foreign exchange earned from the export of tea and the loss of revenue, in terms of rupee, due to fall in export of tea?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Production and export of tea during 1999-2000 in comparison to 1998-99 and the trend of exports in 2000-2001 are as follows:

(Figures in Mn. Kgs.)

Year	Production	Export
1998-99	852.45	205.86
1999-2000	835.35	192.44
2000-2001	848.36	196.32

(c) The estimated consumption of tea within the country during the last three years were as follows:

Year	Consumption (Mn.Kgs.)*
1998	615
1999	633
2000	653

*Based on the survey conducted by Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata.

(c) The gap between the demand and production of tea in the country was 8 Mn. Kgs. during 1998-99, 70 Mn. Kgs. during 1999-2000 and 27 Mn. Kgs. during 2000-2001.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. The export of tea from India has registered an increase during the previous financial year 2000-2001 to the extent of 3.88 Mn. Kgs. as compared to 1999-2000. During the first two months of the year 2001-2002 (April-May), export of tea has registered an increase of 2.12 Mn. Kgs. over the corresponding period of previous financial year. Export of tea in quantity and value terms during the last three years was as follows:—

Year	Quantity	Value		Unit Price
	(M. Kg.)	(Rs. crores)	(in Mn. US$)	(Rs/Kg.)
1998-99	205.86	2191.84	520.88	106.47
1999-2000	192.44	1932.66	427.46	100.43
2000-2001	196.32	1748.36	380.07	89.06

While exports in terms of quantity registered an increase during 2000-01, in terms of value it was lower by Rs. 184.30 Crores over the previous year mainly due to low unit price realization.